

REMARKS

Claims 1-41 are pending in this application. Claims 3 and 39-41 have been withdrawn by the Examiner as being drawn to non-elected inventions.

Applicants have amended claims 4-9, 13-16, 18, 19, 21, 24-31, 37 and 38 to correct editorial errors.

It is believed that no new matter is introduced by the amendments made herein.

ELECTION/RESTRICTIONS

The Examiner has required an election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 of one of the following patentably distinct species:

Species 1 – method of treating a puncture in a vein; and

Species 2 – method of treating a puncture in a femoral artery.

In response, Applicants elect Species 2, *i.e.*, a method of treating a puncture in a femoral artery. It is believed that the claims readable upon the elected species are claims 1, 2 and 4-38. It is submitted that, contrary to the Examiner's allegation that "[c]urrently, no claim is generic" (Office Action at page 2), claim 1 is indeed generic, since it encompasses that treatment of punctures in both a femoral artery (since the recitation "artery" in claim 1 encompasses a femoral artery) and a vein.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the above amendments and remarks be entered and made of record in the file history of the instant application.

It is believed that no fee is necessary for filing this response. In the event that a fee is required, please charge the required fee to Jones Day Deposit Account No. 50-3013.

Respectfully submitted,

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